



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

11/3/87 A3275-2 A
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 29, 1987 -- Freight traffic carried on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 24 totaled an estimated 19.3 billion ton-miles, 4.9 percent above the corresponding week of 1986, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 43 weeks of 1987 was an estimated 761.2 billion ton-miles carried, up 5.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended October 24 totaled 433,327, up 4.1 percent from the corresponding week of last year, but 0.1 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 2.9 percent in the East and 5.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 13 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Coal loadings increased by 4,792 cars (4.1 percent), while metallic ores showed a gain of 2,451 cars (14.2 percent). Loadings of metals and products were up 2,408 cars (33.1 percent), and coke increased by 1,297 cars (30.8 percent). Eleven of the 20 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 17 totaled 104,744 trailers and/or containers, 1.3 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 42 weeks of the year was 4,133,648 trailers and/or containers, up 3.1 percent from 1986.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/24/87:

	Loadings in Week ended October 24, 1987			Change from Corresponding Week 1986		Change from Preceding Week		
	Cars			Cars	Percent	Cars	Percent	
Grain	32,368	D		3,249	9.1	D	1,706	5.0
Other farm products	4,501	D		1,160	20.5	D	220	4.7
Metallic ores	19,710	I		2,451	14.2	D	732	3.6
Coal	122,623	I		4,792	4.1	I	771	0.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	16,970	I		2,085	14.0	D	636	3.6
Nonmetallic minerals	9,953	I		1,127	12.8	I	713	7.7
Grain mill products	11,203	D		285	2.5	D	38	0.3
Food and kindred products	11,628	D		137	1.2	I	416	3.7
Primary forest products	10,522	D		203	1.9	D	186	1.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,841	I		104	1.3	I	75	1.0
Pulp, paper and allied products	11,234	D		1,078	8.8	D	427	3.7
Chemicals and allied products	25,408	I		1,186	4.9	D	560	2.2
Petroleum products	4,966	I		233	4.9	I	87	1.8
Stone, clay and glass products	11,665	I		1,093	10.3	I	18	0.2
Coke	5,502	I		1,297	30.8	D	119	2.1
Metals and products	9,690	I		2,408	33.1	D	220	2.2
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,742	I		1,272	6.2	I	397	1.9
Waste and scrap materials	9,798	I		1,780	22.2	D	237	2.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,156	D		193	5.8	I	104	3.4
All other carloads	<u>82,847</u>	<u>I</u>		<u>3,408</u>	<u>4.3</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>2,132</u>	<u>2.6</u>
Total Cars Loaded	433,327	I		16,931	4.1	D	368	0.1

Corresponding week of 1986 416,396

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Total Cars Loaded (43 weeks)	17,145,168	16,409,777	I 4.5

Estimated revenue ton-miles
(in billions):

42 Weeks ended October 17	741.9	705.6	I 5.1
Week ended October 24	<u>19.3</u>	<u>18.3</u>	<u>I 4.9</u>
43 Weeks cumulative	761.2	724.0	I 5.1

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